

4201 Peachtree Place, Alexandria, VA 22304

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Dear Harold,

I'm a hell of a correspondent. At this stage of the game...exactly as you described in your letter of 6/1/96...so many things interfere, and others just can't be done in the time we usually would require.

The description of your health problems of that day sounds just like mine. I have been in and out of the hospital for one thing and another for some time and now they are leaning toward anemia. Oh well after you pass 80 you have to expect something.

It's hard to get detached from the assassination world. Not long ago the ARRB wrote me and asked me to come in for an interview. As we began the tape I made it clear that I did not request the meeting and that I had come simply in response to their invitation. Quite frankly I came away thinking not too highly of them. I like to look at the "hardware" and the hell with all the analysis of LHO in the Soviet Union and the like.

Now if someone wanted to do away with Clinton one way or another that would be a different matter. He's just not a Presidential type human being.

I've been doing a lot of study of the petroleum business. I have just received the beautifully done new Saudi Aramco world book, and a batch of their magazines. I flew a Geological Survey team into Dharhnan in Oct 1943 and got to see what it was like before they were doing much work.

Today the game is to suppress the transport of oil as much as possible in order to keep the price up. Pipelines that had been in operation since the thirties have been forced to close, and enormous new finds are kept off the market by the inability to get the stuff piped out...as at Khazakstan. Even ARAMOC can not use its old TAPLINE...the largest in the world (both Kuwait and Aramco used to use it until it was closed at Sidon in Lebanon).

Iraq, Iran and Libya are all kept out of the market and new fields can't enter the business. As a result all of us...around the world, pay an exorbitant price for something that ought to be cheap.

I've been to the Japanese facility that is designed to use a breeder (nuclear) reactor to take hydrogen out of salt water. Hydrogen has the highest specific impulse of any element and would produce the cheapest energy source forever, for almost nothing. Great idea; but the petroleum boys (of whom Clinton is a captive) are keeping it off the market.

Fine world. Keep the chin up and the best of luck

*Fletcher*